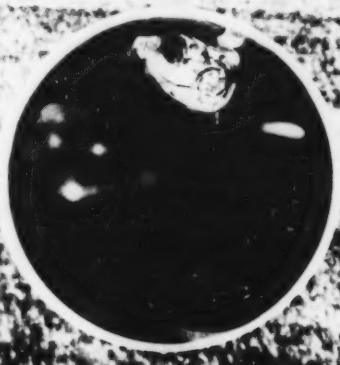
Prince Edward Island
CANADA

Technology and Environment

Annual Report

1999 - 2000



Prince Edward Island
Department of Technology and Environment

Annual Report

1999-2000

For the fiscal year
April 1, 1999, to March 31, 2000

The mandate of the Department of Technology and Environment is:

To contribute to sustainable economic and community development throughout Prince Edward Island by:

- *promoting the protection and responsible stewardship of our environment and natural resources; and*
- *creating a climate supportive of developing technological infrastructure, applications and partnerships with all levels of Government and within the wider community.*

The environmental mandate defines the authority under which the department operates and provides the context for this planning process. The plans are result oriented, and a measuring process will be developed so that progress can be charted. The department and its staff are accountable for the results.

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Message of the Minister

To the Honourable Gilbert Clements
Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island

May it Please Your Honour:

It is my pleasure to present the Annual Report of the Department of Technology and Environment for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitch Murphy

Mitch Murphy, *Minister*
Technology and Environment

Deputy Minister's Overview

To the Honourable Mitch Murphy
Minister of Technology and Environment

Sir:

I am pleased to submit the 1999/2000 Annual Report for the Department of Technology and Environment. This document is intended to report on accountability for key results achieved during the fiscal year.

A few of the department's accomplishments and activities I wish to highlight are as follows:

- Amendments were made to the *Environmental Protection Act* to establish buffer zones around watercourses in the province. A public education campaign was established to inform Islanders of the actions required to be taken to comply with the legislation.

- A cross-departmental team was established to ensure all Provincial Government equipment and services were ready for the Year 2000 Challenge. Essential services were not affected by the Y2K bug.

- Seven parcels of provincially owned property were designated as new Wildlife Management Areas. The designation of this 9,630 acres contributed to the Government's commitment to protect seven per cent of the province in support of the World Wildlife Fund Endangered Spaces Challenge.

- To date, more than 60 Community Access Program (CAP) sites have been established in communities across the province. Prince Edward Island has the most CAP sites per capita in Canada.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and thank employees of the Department for their efforts and dedication over the past year in providing quality and timely services and information to Islanders.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Drost

Bill Drost, P.Eng.
Deputy Minister

Vue d'ensemble du sous-ministre

préparée pour le ministre Mitch Murphy
Ministre des Technologies et de l'Environnement

Monsieur,

Je suis heureux de soumettre le rapport annuel 1999-2000 du ministère des Technologies et de l'Environnement. Ce document se propose de faire rapport sur l'obligation de rendre compte des principaux résultats atteints durant l'année financière.

Voici quelques-unes des réalisations et activités du ministère que j'entends mettre en évidence :

- Des modifications ont été apportées à la *Environment Protection Act* (Loi sur la protection de l'environnement) afin d'ériger des zones tampons autour des cours d'eau dans la province. Une campagne d'information du public a été mise sur pied afin d'informer les Insulaires des moyens à prendre pour se conformer à la loi.

- Une équipe interministérielle a été créée afin de garantir que tous les l'équipements et les services gouvernementaux soient prêts pour le défi du passage à l'an 2000. Les services essentiels n'ont pas été affectés par le bogue de l'an 2000.

- Sept parcelles de terrain appartenant à la province ont été désignées Aires de gestion de la faune. La désignation de ces 9 714,5 acres a renforcé l'engagement du gouvernement visant à protéger sept pour cent du territoire de la province à l'appui de la campagne des espaces en danger du *World Wildlife Fund*.

- Jusqu'à présent, on a implanté plus de 60 sites PAC (Programme d'accès communautaire) dans les collectivités de la province. L'Île-du-Prince-Édouard a le plus grand nombre de sites PAC par habitant au Canada.

Je tiens à reconnaître le travail des employés du ministère et à les remercier pour leurs efforts et le dévouement dont ils ont fait preuve au cours de la dernière année dans la prestation et la justesse de leurs services et des renseignements de qualité fournis aux Insulaires.

C'est avec respect que je vous soumets le présent rapport.

Le sous-ministre,

Bill Drost

Bill Drost, ing.

Introduction to the Department

The Department of Technology and Environment is organized into seven divisions: Administration, Corporate Services, Environmental Protection, Fish and Wildlife, Water Resources, Technology PEI and Technology Support Services. In addition, the minister is responsible for Francophone Affairs and its respective services and legislation.

The department was formed in July 1998 with a mandate to take the lead in advancing public sector developments in technology as well as establishing strong partnerships with the private sector and other governments. The Department of Environment was established in 1989, although responsibility for environmental protection and wildlife management dates back to the 1960s.

Legislative and Other Responsibilities Assigned to the Minister of Technology and Environment

Acts/Statutes

Acadian Purchase Trust Act
Automobile Junk Yards Act
Environmental Protection Act
Fish and Game Protection Act (repealed 1998)
French Language Services Act
Natural Areas Protection Act
Unsightly Property Act
Wildlife Conservation Act

Non-Statutory

Francophone Affairs

Boards

Environmental Advisory Council

Environmental Co-ordinating Committee

Natural Areas Protection Act, Technical Advisory Committee

Wildlife Conservation Fund

Affiliations with National Organizations

Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment

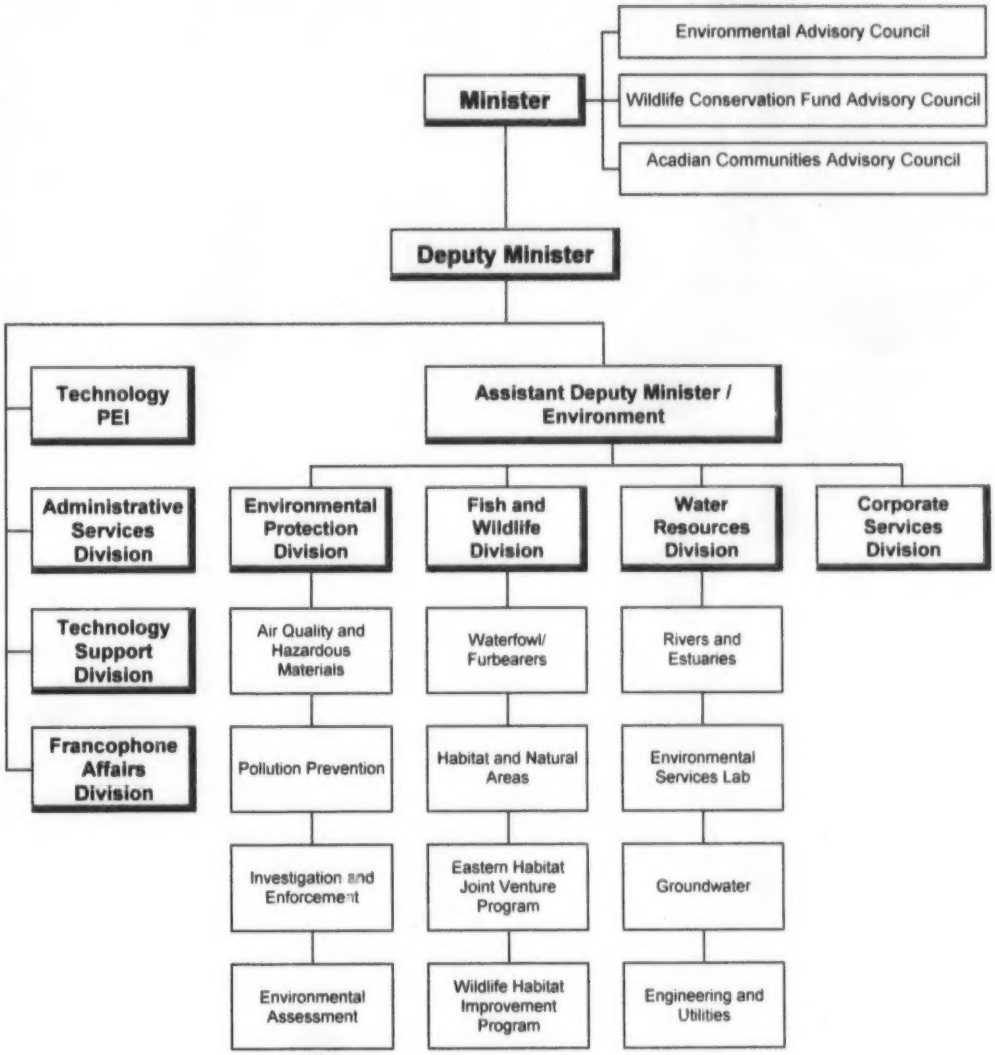
Canadian Endangered Species Conservation Council

Joint Meeting of Ministers of Environment and Energy

Wildlife Ministers Council of Canada

Organizational Chart

Department of Technology and Environment



Year In Review

Given the diverse mandate of the Department of Technology and Environment and its respective divisions, the past year has brought many successes as well as challenges. The critical issues for environmental protection continue to be leadership and public acceptance of environmental responsibility; enforcement of legislation; and protection of watercourses and wetlands.

Implementing the recommendations assigned to the environment section of the department by the Round Table on Resource Land Use and Stewardship and the Report of the Action Committee on Agricultural Runoff Control has taken priority. Key results included the formation of the Island Waste Management Corporation to implement province-wide waste reduction programs including *Waste Watch*. In addition, watercourse buffer zone and forest riparian zone legislation has been augmented by an education campaign, in cooperation with the Department of Agriculture and Forestry.

Information and communications technology is becoming the province's newest industry. Given its reputation for infrastructure and partnerships, Prince Edward Island is becoming known as the Smart Province...a place where communities thrive and knowledge, human resources and technologies are utilized to their full potential to the benefit of individual communities and the province as a whole. Prince Edward Island's Smart Players include governments, communities, education, industry and individuals. Many strategic partnerships have developed resulting in growth in IT beta-testing activity including electronic post office boxes, tele-hospice and Level II CAP sites.

The Department of Technology and Environment will continue to work cooperatively with business, industry and communities to promote the protection and responsible stewardship of our environment and natural resources as well ensure the most effective use of information technology to advance the economy of our province.

Revue de l'année

Compte tenu du mandat diversifié du ministère des Technologies et de l'Environnement et de ses divisions respectives, la dernière année a connu bien des succès et des défis. Les questions déterminantes pour la protection de l'environnement sont toujours la direction efficace et l'acceptation du public en matière de responsabilité environnementale, l'application de la loi et la protection des cours d'eau et des terres humides.

On a accordé la priorité à la mise en œuvre des recommandations confiées à la section de l'environnement du ministère par la table ronde sur l'utilisation et la gérance des ressources et des terres et par le rapport du comité d'initiative sur le contrôle des eaux de ruissellement agricoles. Les résultats clés comprenaient la formation de la *Island Waste Management Corporation* (Société de gestion des déchets de l'Île) afin de d'élaborer des programmes de réduction des déchets à la grandeur de la province, notamment *Waste Watch*. De plus, l'importance des lois traitant de zones tampon des cours d'eau et de zones riveraines des forêts s'est accrue en raison d'une campagne d'information qui s'est réalisée par l'entremise du ministère de l'Environnement et des Forêts.

La technologie de l'information et des communications est en voie de devenir la plus nouvelle industrie de la province. Par sa réputation en matière d'infrastructure et de partenariat, l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard se fait connaître comme la « province ingénieuse »... un endroit où les collectivités s'épanouissent, où les ressources humaines et la technologie sont pleinement utilisées au profit des communautés individuelles et de la province dans son ensemble. Au nombre des joueurs ingénieux de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard on compte les gouvernements, les collectivités, l'éducation, l'industrie et les individus. Un grand nombre de partenariats se sont développés grâce à la croissance de l'activité d'essais pilotes de la technologie de l'information, notamment du service de poste électronique, de télé-hospice et de sites PAC de niveau II.

Le ministère des Technologies et de l'Environnement continuera de travailler en collaboration avec le secteur des affaires, l'industrie et les collectivités afin de promouvoir la protection et la gérance responsable de notre environnement et de nos ressources naturelles, du même coup, de garantir l'utilisation la plus efficace de la technologie de l'information afin de faire progresser l'économie de notre province.

Pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez communiquer avec
Diane Arsenault
(902) 368-4683
ou par courrier électronique à l'adresse
diarsenault@gov.pe.ca

Administration Division

The Administration Division provides financial, human resource and administrative services to department personnel. The division has the overall responsibility of preparing and monitoring the department budget and providing financial analysis and advice to management. The division processes all financial and payroll transactions, and is responsible for various administrative services such as reception, vehicle management, telecommunications system administration, accommodation requirements, records management activities, information technology service agreement management and risk management.

During this fiscal year, the department has seconded a full-time Human Resource Manager whose major area of focus is the development of a human resource plan for information technology workers across Government.

Department Staff Summary

As of March 31, 1999, the department had a total of 126 positions, 117 full-time and 9 part-time. The following is a breakdown of those positions:

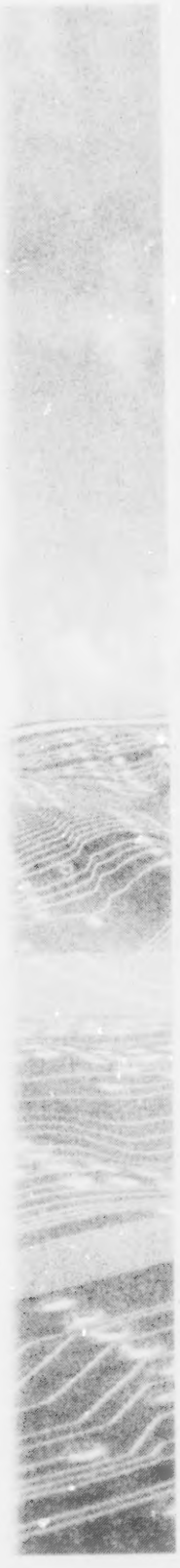
	Full Time	Part Time
Environmental Protection	20	1
Water Resources	16	3
Fish and Wildlife	9	5
Administrative Services	10	0
Corporate Services	4	0
Francophone Affairs	5	0
Technology Support Services	51	0
Technology PEI	2	0
Total	**117**	**9**

In addition to the above established positions, the department employed 51 casual employees and 25 students during the 1999/2000 fiscal year.

Department Financial Summary

1999-2000 Actual Expenditures and Revenue

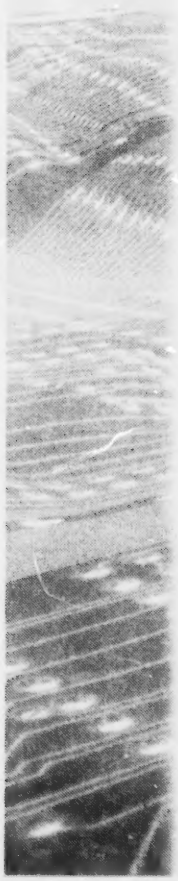
	Expenditures	Revenue	Net Cost
Branch Management	$251,114	0	$251,114
Environmental Protection	$1,603,999	$64,371	$1,539,628
Water Resources	$1,548,496	$676,254	$872,242
Fish and Wildlife	$1,326,119	$564,159	$761,960
Administration	$416,411	0	$416,411
Corporate Services	$230,113	0	$230,113
Francophone Affairs	$609,962	$299,584	$310,378
Technology Support Services	$3,663,962	$67,971	$3,595,991
Technology PEI	$2,931,223	$697,342	$2,233,881
Total	**$12,581,399**	**$2,369,681**	**$10,211,718**



1999-2000 Actual Expenditure and Revenue

Division	Original Budget	Actual Expenditure/Revenue	Variance
Expenditure Budget:			
Branch Management	$241,300	$251,114	($9,814)
Environmental Protection	1,379,700	1,603,999	(224,299)
Water Resources	1,172,800	1,548,496	(375,696)
Fish and Wildlife	1,240,600	1,326,119	(85,519)
Administration	511,800	416,411	95,389
Corporate Services	283,900	230,113	53,787
Francophone Affairs	522,400	609,962	(87,562)
Technology Support Services	3,647,700	3,663,962	(16,262)
Technology PEI	2,831,200	2,931,223	(100,023)
Total	11,831,400	12,581,399	(749,999)
Revenue Budget:			
Environmental Protection	$68,000	$64,371	(3,629)
Water Resources	314,700	676,254	361,554
Fish and Wildlife	571,500	564,159	(7,341)
Francophone Affairs	224,900	299,584	74,684
Technology Support Services	64,600	67,971	3,371
Technology PEI	275,000	697,342	422,342
Total	**1,518,700**	**2,369,681**	**850,981**
Total Net	**$10,312,700**	**$10,211,718**	**$100,982**

Throughout the fiscal year, the department's budget was increased by approximately $792,000 by way of approved special warrants which was off-set by a corresponding increase in revenue. The increased budget requirement was primarily for information technology programs funded by Industry Canada. There was also increased funding under the PEI/Canada General Agreement on the Promotion of Official Languages, and the approval of the Environmental and Natural Resource Program.



Corporate Services

The Corporate Services Division serves all divisions of the department with communications and coordination services. Staff also facilitate the development of policy for environmental matters both within the province and as part of our relationship to other jurisdictions through the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) and other mechanisms.

Prince Edward Island has participated with other provinces in the ongoing process of developing sub-agreements and Canada-Wide Standards (CWS) associated with the Canada-Wide Accord on Environmental Harmonization. Negotiations were completed on the CWS on mercury emissions from waste incineration and smelting, benzene (phase 1), and particulate matter and ozone.

Negotiations continued on the CWS for dioxins and furans, petroleum hydrocarbons, and mercury from flourescent lamps and dental amalgams. PEI chaired the CCME committee that conducted the Two-year Review of the Harmonization Accord.

The department produced acid rain and mercury action plans as part of its participation in the New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers Conference.

An environment strategic plan was developed to guide the environmental work of the department for the next five years. It is result oriented, and progress will be measured. It is a plan for the department rather than the environment itself. It describes our role in protecting and managing the environment for its own sake and for the benefit of all Islanders.

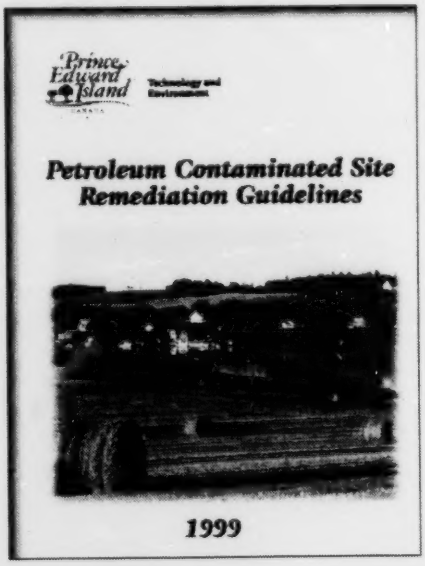
The critical issues at the corporate level were:

- leadership and public acceptance of environmental responsibility,
- enforcement of legislation, and
- protection of watercourses and wetlands.

The goals are:

- to increase the public's acceptance of responsibility for the environment and sustainability of natural resources,
- to improve the quality of the province's ecosystems,
- to increase client satisfaction with the department's programs and services,
- to reduce the risk of adverse environmental impact on human and animal health,
- to increase public confidence in the work of the department, and
- to improve staff satisfaction.

While achieving these goals, the department will maintain results in all other areas defined by the mission at no less than acceptable levels. Each division identified its critical issues and established its goals.



Environmental Protection Division

Mandate

The mandate of the Environmental Protection Division administers a variety of programs, legislation and services which are designed to enhance protection of our land, air, water and soil in the province. These activities included management of air quality, protection of the ozone layer, management of hazardous and solid waste, transportation of dangerous goods, environmental emergency response, litter control, beverage containers, petroleum storage, used oil handling, lead-acid batteries, derelict vehicles, excavation pits, unsightly properties, noise and related activities.

Division Overview

The division is challenged to address many of emerging issues such as climate change/global warming, air borne toxic substances, pollution prevention activities, environment industry development, health and environmental issues.

A transfer of responsibility for the operation and management of solid waste disposal sites to the Island Waste Management Corporation occurred during the year. The department retains a regulatory function in regard to the operation of these disposal sites and the rights to marketing of the program outside the province. The Waste Watch program continues to accomplish a 65 per cent diversion rate for waste from disposal and this is one of the most successful waste diversion programs in Canada.

Highlights

Air Quality and Hazardous Materials Section

The province, through the Air Quality Section, continued its participation in two federal-provincial air monitoring programs: National Air Pollutant Surveillance Program (NAPS) and Long Range Transport of Air Pollutants Program. Regular ambient air samples collected at the Charlottetown NAPS station provide information to Environment Canada on sulphur dioxide, ozone and particulate levels found in the local samples.

In accordance with the CCME federal-provincial initiative, PEI made a commitment to regulate the use of controlled ozone depleting substances (ODS). A contract was in place which involved the inspection of refrigeration and air conditioning equipment at the regional landfill sites and community dumps, and the recovery of ODS if present.

The Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act requires that generators of hazardous waste register with the department and provide information about the types and quantities of wastes generated.

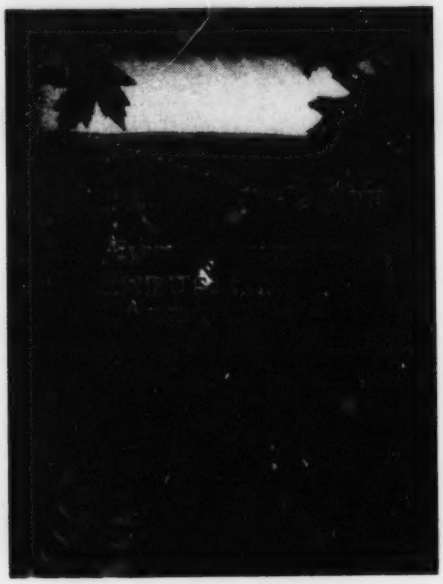
Lead-acid batteries can represent a threat to groundwater, as their components possess the potential to leach into soil. With the development of the lead-acid battery recovery program, attempts to reduce the risk have been highly successful.

Key Statistics	1999
Inspections of refrigeration/air conditioning equipment at landfills	554
Recovery of ODS from landfills	817
Investigation of underground petroleum storage tanks	372
Removal of underground petroleum storage tanks	28
Recorded home heat tank/storage tank spills	208
Registered generators of hazardous waste	337
Import of lead-acid batteries to the province	21854
Recovery of lead-acid batteries for recycling out-of-province	16,824 (77 %)

Environmental Industry Development Section

As environmental awareness and responsibility have increased in the last decade, so too has the concept of environmental industries as a distinct sector. In late 1999, this section was given a mandate to support marketing and development of the environmental industry sector in the province.

The initial task was to identify existing firms offering environmental goods, services and information in Prince Edward Island. In late March 2000, a printed version of the first-ever *Prince Edward Island Environment Industry Directory* was published jointly by the department and the Prince Edward Island Environment Industry Network. The directory profiles more than 200 firms.



Staff, in cooperation with the other Atlantic Provinces, designed and participated in the Atlantic Canada Pavilion at *Globe 2000*, an international environmental industry trade show held every two years in Vancouver, British Columbia. The Atlantic Pavilion, with 20 exhibit areas, provided large and well-designed professional spaces from which each province and company conducted business. The new *Prince Edward Island Environment Industry Directory* was key to the Prince Edward Island exhibit, with more than 200 distributed.

Promotional literature from about 12 Island businesses was promoted at the conference. Island Plastics of Stratford promoted their unique plastic lumber product and manufacturing system as part of the exhibit with assistance from department staff.

Development of a strong industry association has been identified as a significant factor to the continued growth of the environment industry sector and the department is committed to this objective.

While no longer operationally responsible for waste management in the province, the department is mandated to explore marketing the source-separated waste management system, *Waste Watch*, to potential off-Island clients. Following up contacts made from earlier Canada/Russian exchanges, an application was also submitted to the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) to pilot *Waste Watch* in Pushno, a scientific research community near Moscow, Russia. Follow up work on this project application continued into the new fiscal year.

Environmental Assessment Section

The Environmental Assessment Section deals with proposed developments which may qualify as undertakings as defined in the Environmental Assessment Guidelines. In addition, the section coordinates the subdivision environmental review process for provincial and municipal authorities with advice and technical expertise provided from within the department.

Agricultural proposals, primarily intensive livestock operations, formed a significant portion of the approvals reviewed this year under Section 9 of the *Environmental Protection Act*. An increase in proposals from this sector is related to funding assistance provided by the province to assist farmers in mitigating environmental concerns associated with their farming operations. Most of the agricultural approvals were upgrades to manure storage facilities and offer increased protection to both ground and surface water resources.

Key Statistics	1999
Development applications reviewed	174
Development applications approved* Section 9, *Environmental Protection Act*	61
Agricultural developments approved Section 9, *Environmental Protection Act*	38
Golf course developments approved	6
Subdivision applications reviewed**	119

* *The remaining 113 applications were reviewed and advice on these developments was provided to permitting authorities as required.*

** *Advice was given to permitting authorities on how these subdivisions could be best developed with regard to water and sewer servicing, as well as protection of significant natural features.*

Fish and Wildlife Division

Mandate

The mandate of the Fish and Wildlife Division is to conserve and protect the province's fish and wildlife resources and the habitats on which they depend, for their intrinsic value and the benefits they provide to the public. Achieving this outcome depends on the cooperation and involvement of interested individuals, community-based groups, landowners, government and non-government agencies.

Division Overview

Assessments of the population status of a variety of wildlife species, both game and non-game, are conducted annually to determine species responses to such things as habitat changes and harvest. In addition, the division manages approximately 27,500 acres of provincially owned land contained within eight designated Wildlife Management Areas and more than 70 public ponds. Each year the division issues over 11,000 angling, 4,200 hunting and 100 trapping licenses.

Highlights

Protected Areas and Biodiversity Conservation

- Six properties (215 acres) were designated as Natural Areas as part of the province's commitment to the Endangered Spaces Program.
- A total of 235 acres of wetland properties were acquired to protect habitat.
- After public consultation, 9,630 acres of provincially owned lands were designated as Wildlife Management Areas.
- The division undertook maintenance and repairs to public dam sites across the province. Major repairs to the fishway at Larkin's Pond, Selkirk, were undertaken while minor repairs were conducted at MacPhee's Pond, St. Georges; MacPherson's Pond, Flat River; Murphy's Pond, Millvale; and Carragher's Pond, Emyvale. Draw downs occurred at Arsenault's Pond, Tignish; Leard's Pond, Coleman; Grigg's Pond, Ellerslie; Robinson's Pond, Tyne Valley; Cass Pond, Covehead; and Carruther's Pond, Hamilton.
- The division continued to improve the wetland inventory, hydrographic watershed layers on the departmental Geographic Information System (GIS). This information will be useful for the status of wildlife habitat report in 2003 as required under the *Wildlife Conservation Act*.

Status of PEI Wildlife

Bird Banding Survey Results	**Summer 1999**
Total number of waterfowl banded	1,572
Black duck	560
Green-wing teal	410
Bird Banding Survey Results	**Winter 1999**
Total number of waterfowl banded	447
Black duck	391
Aerial Census	**Fall 1999**
Canada geese	26,817
Black duck	24,471

Other Wildlife Survey Findings

- The great cormorant population has recovered slightly from a precipitous decline in 1993, while double crested cormorant numbers dropped from a peak of 9,800 breeding pairs in 1997 to 7,700 in 1999.
- A study of 750 muskrat carcasses from 18 marshes in eastern PEI concluded that a population reduction may have been influenced by several years of low harvest.
- A census of active beaver colonies in selected watersheds indicated an increase in the number of active colonies.

- The harvest of ruffed grouse and snowshoe hare was comparable to the previous two years, while the harvest of coyote by hunters and trappers declined over 30 per cent from 1998.
- Under the *National Accord on the Protection of Species at Risk*, the province is required to assess the status of wildlife. An assessment of about 1,400 plants and animals was completed with the cooperation of the Island Nature Trust and Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre. Most wildlife species are quite common, while some are rare; and for many species, the status is unknown.

Eastern Habitat Joint Venture

Under the Stewardship Program of Eastern Habitat Joint Venture, 132 acres of wetland habitat were enhanced at 24 sites in the province. Financial assistance was provided to landowners to fence livestock from streams and to employ soil conservation measures on agriculture land for protection of adjacent water courses and wetlands.

Support was provided for 18 fencing projects, involving 695 head of cattle and 4.5 miles of fence, while over 1,750 acres (20 projects) of agricultural land were protected through such techniques as strip cropping, grass waterways and diversion terraces.

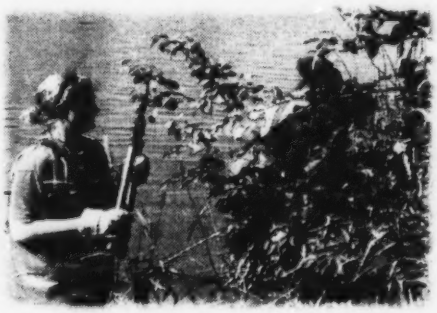
Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program/Wildlife Conservation Fund

The Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program (WHIP) and Wildlife Conservation Fund (WCF) supported watershed groups engaged in wildlife habitat initiatives. Under WHIP, 61 projects, with total funding of $170,200, were assisted involving over 40 groups and 50 watersheds. The majority of projects supported were directed at restoring fish habitat and improving trout and salmon stocks.

The WCF, funded by a conservation fee, supported the ongoing operation of the Cardigan Fish Hatchery, with an annual grant of $60,000, and conservation initiatives by wildlife organizations and community groups. A total of $155,900 has been granted for 53 projects since the fund started in 1998/1999.

The Young Environmentalist Program

The Young Environmentalist Program offered an environmental educational/work experience to 50 Island youth. Over 65 community projects were completed including, for example, beach sweeps, tree planting and the building and maintenance of trails.



Firearm Safety/Hunter Education

Volunteer instructors provided mandatory training to individuals wishing to acquire a firearm as well as to first time hunters. In 1999/2000, 492 individuals successfully completed the Canadian Firearms Safety Course, with 208 persons completing the Hunter Education Course.

Trapper Education

A total of 18 new trappers were certified, for a total of 222 individuals being certified since adoption of a mandatory training requirement in 1986.

Water Resources Division

Mandate

The Water Resources Division is responsible for the management, protection and enhancement of the province's groundwater, inland surface water, coastal estuaries and programs related to the management of coastal sand resources. The division regulates water and sewer infrastructure and administers available funding support programs. The division provides water testing and engineering advisory services to provincial departments, municipalities and the general public.

Overview

The Water Resources Division is made up of the Engineering and Utilities Section, Rivers and Estuaries Section and Groundwater Section. The Division also provides chemical and microbiological laboratory services. A satisfaction survey of client groups served by the Water Resources Division was completed in March 2000 with the following results:

Client Satisfaction Survey Results

Program Area	Percentage of Clients Satisfied/Very Satisfied	
	1997	2000
Drinking Water Quality Testing	94 %	96 %
Water Quality Certification	90 %	95 %
Groundwater Exploration and Water Allocation	99 %	100 %
Well Drillers	97 %	93%
Septic Tank Pumpers	96 %	99 %
Watercourse and Wetland Alterations	94 %	95 %
Shore Zone Sand Removal	86 %	93 %
Irrigation Program	91 %	85 %
Municipalities	100 %	100 %
Summary - All Services	**92 %**	**95.6 %**

Staff initiated the development of a water management policy to provide a consolidation of resource management policies, procedures and programs employed by the department to fulfil its mandate of protecting water resources and associated ecosystems. The objective in disseminating this information is to generate public awareness and involvement in the management of the province's water resources.

The division also strengthened its public education initiatives by distributing more reports and publications to the public via hard copy and the Internet, developing Water Wise fact sheets and participating in community exhibitions and home shows. A comprehensive public education campaign was also carried out in regard to the watercourse buffer zone and forest riparian zone legislation in cooperation with the Department of Agriculture and Forestry.

Highlights

Rivers and Estuaries Section

New watercourse buffer zone and forest riparian zone legislation came into effect April 1, 2000. The legislation calls for the establishment of a 10-metre wide watercourse buffer zone adjacent to crop land, intensive livestock operations and commercial and residential development. The establishment of a slope-dependent 20 or 30 metre-wide riparian zone adjacent to watercourses and wetlands is required on all forested land in the province.

In addition, the following activities were carried out in an effort to manage, protect and enhance the province's water supply and coastal sand resources:

- Reviewed 767 applications for watercourse alteration permits. Of these, 545 permits were issued by the division and 112 permits were issued by the Department of Transportation and Public Works.
- Received 23 applications for permits to irrigate farm crops using streams as a source of water and issued 22 permits.
- Received 33 applications for the shore zone sand removal program. Permits were issued for all applications with the amount of sand removed under permit totalling 31,000 m^3. This represents a substantial increase from the previous year due primarily to large removals at West Point and Skinners Pond.

Groundwater Section

The Groundwater Section investigated numerous water well problems, ranging from bacteria problems to contamination by road salt. In 1999, most problems were restricted to private wells, all of which were satisfactorily resolved.

Groundwater Exploration Permits were issued for 27 projects, the majority of which were for irrigation wells and central water supply systems, and 25 per cent relating to other industrial water uses. As usual, only a portion of exploration permits result in an actual commissioning of production wells, and only 13 groundwater allocations were issued. The department established a policy that prohibits the export of groundwater and surface water in bulk. Groundwater may be exported in containers having a capacity of 25 litres or less. The export of surface water is not permitted.

A report prepared jointly by the Sierra Club of Eastern Canada and the University of Waterloo examined the quality of drinking water from municipal water supply systems in Prince Edward Island. The authors concluded that water quality was excellent, including the fact that none of the 140 pesticide compounds examined were detected.

Another study, *Water Quality Interpretive Report 1999* summarized water quality data collected over several decades by the province and Environment Canada. The study represented the most comprehensive review of groundwater and surface water quality information since the late 1970s. The report indicated that the province's water resources are generally healthy although nutrient enrichment bacterial contamination, and sedimentation in surface waters remain of concern.

Guidelines were developed for the monitoring of water quality from municipal water supply systems. Recommendations were made for the central locations and frequency for sampling water supply systems. All recommendations have been implemented by municipal water utilities, with work commencing to extend the program to include smaller, privately operated water systems.

In late 1999, a contract was secured to study potential approaches in developing well field protection strategies for municipal wells. The department also became involved in a three-year study of groundwater in the maritime region led by the Geological Survey of Canada.

Engineering and Utilities Section

The division is responsible for administration of Section 13 of the *Environmental Protection Act* which requires ministerial approval for design, construction, operation and maintenance of all water supply and wastewater treatment systems. The following is a break-down of this activity:

- Twenty-eight certificates of approval were issued during the year. This represents a decrease of 10 per cent from 1998 with an estimated construction value of $9 million.
- Municipal infrastructure investment increased by more than 100 per cent over 1998.

In an effort to develop expertise in on-site sewage disposal, two week-long site assessment and system design training courses were sponsored and made available to other Government departments and agencies as well as to private consulting engineers and technicians. Twenty people successfully completed this training course in 1999.

Over the past year, the Engineering and Utilities Section has studied and researched opportunities associated with reusing treated waste water (water reuse). This has lead to the development and approval of water reuse standards for golf course irrigation.

Environmental Services Lab

Water Sample Analysis Activity 1999/2000

Sample Type / Client	Laboratory		Total
	Microbiology	Chemistry	
Private Mortgage Certificates	1,554	1,418	1,650
Private Water Samples	841	610	1,057
Department of Technology and Environment	2,469	1,367	2,816
Department of Health	833	32	833
Quality Tourism Services	991	1	991
Municipal	1,807	164	1,833
Totals	8,495	3,592	9,180

Affaires francophones

Mandat

La Division des affaires francophones conseille le gouvernement provincial dans la planification et la mise en œuvre de diverses mesures de manière à augmenter sa capacité d'offrir des services en français à la communauté acadienne et francophone. La Division appuie également les ministères et les organismes du gouvernement sur un grand nombre de questions se rapportant aux Affaires francophones à différents niveaux : intergouvernemental, national et international. Les Affaires francophones fournissent les services de traduction à l'intérieur du gouvernement.

Points saillants

Entente cadre Canada/ Î.-P.-É. sur la promotion des langues officielles

Le gouvernement de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard, représenté par le ministre responsable des Affaires francophones, Mitch Murphy, et le gouvernement du Canada, représenté par la ministre du Patrimoine canadien, Sheila Copps, ont renouvelé l'Entente cadre Canada/Île-du-Prince-Édouard sur la promotion des langues officielles pour une période de cinq ans se terminant le 31 mars 2004. L'Entente comprend une augmentation de 25 pour cent du fonds initial fédéral, lequel passe à 1,38 million de dollars, plus une somme supplémentaire de 560 000 $ applicable aux projets de plus de deux ans. Cette entente fournit un mécanisme de coopération entre les deux paliers de gouvernement ainsi que des fonds de démarrage pour la mise en place de la *French Language Services Act* (Loi sur les services en français).

Le Sommet de la francophonie

Des initiatives, telles que la Conférence des communautés ingénieuses qui s'est tenue à Summerside et l'appui du consortium Uniglocal à une mission exploratoire vers des destinations européenne et africaine, ont apporté une contribution directe de près de 750 000 $ à l'économie de la province. L'objectif final était d'aider le gouvernement du Nouveau-Brunswick à accueillir le Sommet. Les Affaires francophones, en partenariat avec certains autres ministères et organismes provinciaux, ont prêté leur concours à près de 40 événements rattachés au Sommet, ce qui a permis de faire participer plus de 1 200 Insulaires venant de partout à l'Île. La grande majorité des projets ont été réalisés par des organismes communautaires tels que la Société Saint-Thomas-d'Aquin et l'Institut d'études des îles).

La province a considéré qu'un certain nombre des initiatives entreprises en relation avec le Sommet étaient des investissements à long terme. Il s'agit notamment de la lettre d'intention de coopération signée par le gouvernement de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard et le gouvernement de la Côte d'Ivoire et de la création d'un organisme non gouvernemental acadien visant à mettre les compétences du Canada atlantique au service des pays en développement.

La French Language Services Act (Loi sur les services en français)

En avril 1999, moment historique, la *Loi sur les services en français* a reçu la sanction royale. La Loi définit les paramètres de l'utilisation de la langue française à l'Assemblée législative, dans le système judiciaire provincial et par les institutions gouvernementales et elle prévoit le développement et le renforcement de la communauté acadienne et francophone de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard.

La proclamation de 11 articles de la Loi a fait l'objet d'une cérémonie en mars 2000, et ces articles sont entrés en vigueur le 1er avril 2000. Une manifestation visible de la Loi sera la mise en place des panneaux de signalisation bilingues dans la province. La Loi sera proclamée en entier au cours des prochaines années, à mesure que les ministères et organismes continuent de donner effet aux exigences de la Loi.

Services de traduction

Étant donné que la prestation des services en français à la population acadienne et francophone de l'Î.-P.-É. fait l'objet d'une insistance marquée, le besoin de services de traduction a augmenté de façon importante. Il y a 10 ans, le volume de traduction et de correction s'élevait à 416 000 mots; en 1999-2000, il a augmenté à 1,39 million de mots. Durant la même période, le nombre de traducteurs est passé de 1 à 4, ce qui a permis de réviser 309 000 mots supplémentaires et d'atteindre une production totale de 1,7 million de mots.

Ambassadors of the Côte d'Ivoire visit Prince Edward Island after the Francophone Summit in Moncton./ Des ambassadeurs de la Côte d'Ivoire visitent l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard après le Sommet de la Francophonie à Moncton.

Francophone Affairs

Mandate

The Francophone Affairs Division advises the Provincial Government in the planning and implementation of various measures in order to increase its capacity to offer French services to the Acadian and Francophone community. The division also supports Government departments and agencies on numerous issues relating to Francophone Affairs at the intergovernmental, national and international levels. Translation services are provided within Government by Francophone Affairs.

Highlights

Canada/PEI General Agreement on the Promotion of Official Languages

The Government of Prince Edward Island, represented by Honourable Mitch Murphy, Minister responsible for Francophone Affairs, and the Government of Canada represented by the Minister of the Department of Canadian Heritage, Honourable Sheila Copps, renewed the Canada/PEI General Agreement on the Promotion of Official Languages for a five-year period ending on March 31, 2004. The agreement saw an increase of 25 per cent in the federal base funding to $1.38 M plus an additional $560,000 for projects beginning in 1999 and ending fiscal year end March 2001. This agreement provides a mechanism for cooperation between the two levels of government as well as developmental funding for the implementation of the *French Language Services Act*.

The Francophone Summit

Initiatives such as the Smart Communities Conference in Summerside and support for an exploratory mission by the Uniglocal consortium to European and African destinations contributed near $750,000 directly to the economy of the province. The final objective was to support the Government of New Brunswick in hosting the summit. Francophone Affairs, in partnership with a number of other provincial departments and agencies, supported over 40 Summit-related events which permitted the participation of over 1,200 Islanders from across the Island. The vast majority of projects were carried out by community organizations such as the Société Saint-Thomas-d'Aquin and the Institute of Island Studies.

A number of initiatives undertaken in conjunction with the summit were considered long term investments by the province. Such initiatives include a letter of intent to cooperate signed by the Government of the Côté d'Ivoire and the Government of Prince Edward Island and the establishment of an Acadian non-governmental organization to make use of Atlantic Canada's expertise to assist developing economies.

French Language Services Act

In April 1999, the historic *French Language Services Act* received Royal Assent. The act defines the parameters for the use of French in the Legislative Assembly, the provincial justice system and by Government institutions as well as the development and enhancement of the Acadian and Francophone community of Prince Edward Island.

A ceremony to proclaim 11 sections of the act was held in March 2000. These sections came into effect April 1, 2000. One visible manifestation of the legislation will be the placement of bilingual road signs in the province. The act will be fully proclaimed over the next number of years as departments and agencies continue to implement requirements of the act.

Translation Services

With the increased emphasis on provision of services in French to the Acadian and Francophone population of PEI, the need for translation services has increased significantly. Ten years ago 416,000 words were translated or corrected annually. This number has grown to 1.39 million words for 1999-2000. Over the same period, the number of translators grew from one to four permitting an additional 309,000 words to be revised for a total production of 1.7 million words.

Technology PEI

Mandate

Technology PEI is mandated to create a climate supportive of developing technological infrastructure, applications and partnerships with all levels of government and within the wider community.

In striving to carry out this mandate, the goals of Technology PEI are to:

- work cooperatively with all levels of government and the private sector to improve services to Islanders through the use of IT;
- create information technology (IT) jobs and wealth in the province;
- ensure the supply of an adequate and properly trained workforce; and
- ensure all citizens, communities and businesses in Prince Edward Island have access to the benefits and opportunities of a knowledge-based economy.

Overview

Technology PEI has endeavored over the past year to make information technology opportunities available to all Islanders through business, government, education institutions and community organizations.

In order to achieve its goals, Technology PEI has formed partnerships with the Information Technologies Association of Prince Edward Island (ITAP), Industry Canada and other Government departments. Further, Technology PEI has implemented a strategy to capitalize on the successes of information technology in Prince Edward Island. One goal of the division is to dispel the myths associated with information technology (IT) and leverage the opportunities presented by IT.

Highlights

Sector Development:

- Developed an industry strategy, Making the Leap, in partnership with ITAP and industry that is designed to grow the IT sector in the province.
- Launched the Web presence/ E-Commerce program that potentially enables all businesses in PEI to benefit from a presence and/or use of the Internet.
- Announced details of an Information Technology Centre with General Electric. Specifics of this initiative will see the creation of 75 skilled jobs providing necessary IT services to Government and others located in Charlottetown.
- Identified opportunities for the IT Sector of PEI at a national level with the Federal Opportunities Profile.

Community Development:

- Provided assistance and support in the preparation of two Smart Community bids submitted to the National Smart Communities adjudication committee. The City of Charlottetown and an amalgamation of communities and special interest groups jointly submitted under the banner of the Alliance.
- Implemented the Access.ca pilot for Industry Canada. Once complete, the project was renamed pei-online.ca with the intent to work toward new services, including enhanced business services, a French portal and a community portal.

- Conducted a national pilot for E-Post which included the electronic service delivery of federal and provincial applications within the province.

- Provided joint funding with Industry Canada to redesign the PEI Community Access Program Web site.
- Established Level II Community Access Program (CAP) sites and 20 new sites in cooperation with Industry Canada. CAP sites provide public access to the Internet at community locations throughout the province. Level II sites are "super" CAP sites that focus on creation and entrepreneurship.
- Provided joint funding with Industry Canada for the IT Youth Employment Strategy – 100 students – which created youth employment positions in CAP Sites across PEI.

Workforce Development:

- Developed the Knowledge Worker Supply Strategy, which is a framework of priority actions, designed to ensure that PEI has the skilled workers needed for rapid growth and diversification of the IT sector.
- Supported educational institutions from Grade 1 through to post secondary in a number of initiatives to build IT awareness, training and workforce capacity.
- Coordinated efforts required of the MCS Spectrum License Award. In PEI, Inukshuk Internet Inc. provided Multipoint Communications Systems services in the 2,500 MHZ band. This program has provided significant benefits for the nonprofit learning institutions of PEI.
- Undertook a number of initiatives with the Department of Education under the banner of *Partnerships in D2Q (K-12)*. Activities included a review of the IT infrastructure and new computer labs for high schools.
- Provided support to *CAPSLE: A Showcase of PEI's Expertise in IT-LAW* at a national conference hosted in Prince Edward Island for the Canadian Association for the Practical Study in Law. A local law firm provided the expertise for the pre-conference in technology and education issues.

Marketing:

- Coordinated Information Technology Week 2000 in cooperation with provincial, federal and industry partners. The majority of IT companies of PEI participated in this event and thousands of Islanders participated in the expo, seminars, open houses, workshops and gala dinner. (Event held in May 2000, however, the majority of planning was carried out during the fiscal year).
- Participated at Softworld '99 in Vancouver with the largest PEI delegation to-date. Team PEI showed a strong presence with several businesses achieving significant business deals.

- Coordinated ongoing media relations with international, national and local outlets to profile the province's IT industry.

In the next fiscal year, Technology PEI is focused on developing new partnerships, building a stronger distribution of IT wealth within the province, and assisting to export IT products and services. Technology PEI will work toward greater participation and access to IT at the community level; and additionally, work will continue in the development of a stronger IT workforce.

Technology Support Division

Mandate

The mandate of the Technology Support Division is to contribute to the efficient and effective operation of Government by providing corporate leadership for information technology, and delivering high-quality, cost-effective support services to clients.

Overview

Technology Support provides a range of services to Provincial Government departments and agencies. To deliver these services, the division is organized into two sections, Information Systems Delivery (ISD) and Computer Support Services (CSS).

Information Systems Delivery

This section is responsible for the planning, development, implementation and maintenance of information systems; developing corporate standards; and promoting an awareness of information technology within Government. ISD services include strategic planning, standards development, information systems development, Help Desk service, IT procurement, consultation and project management.

Computer Support Services

This section is responsible for management of corporate central processing facilities and data communications network; computer hardware and software technical support; and providing leadership in the development of technology standards and guidelines. CSS services include facilities management, data communications network management, server management, LAN management, microcomputer system management, technology research and telecommunications.

Highlights

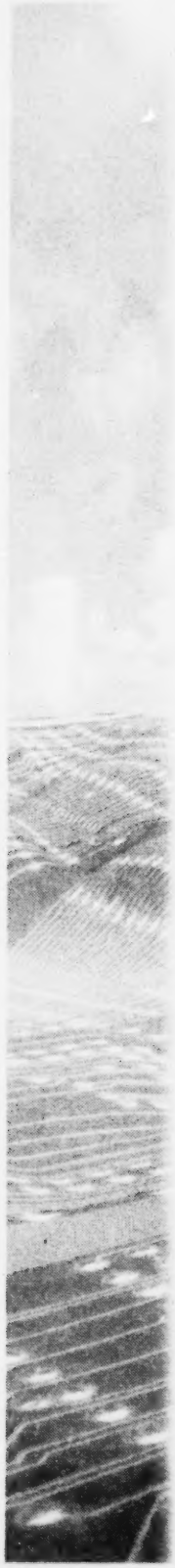
Information Technology Security

Staff of the division facilitated the development of a number of policies and procedures including a system-wide policy on acceptable use of computer resources, procedures for portable computers, procedures for disposal of Government information on computer mediums and a brochure entitled Internet Safety Tips for Parents, which was distributed to every household in PEI.

Year 2000 Challenge

The Technology Support Division coordinated the overall planning and response to the Year 2000 challenge. A project team with representatives from all Government departments and agencies worked collaboratively to deal with this major business issue. Much hard work went into ensuring that all Provincial Government information systems and infrastructure were Y2K compliant. In addition, a communications strategy was implemented to heighten awareness within Provincial Government as well as among businesses and households across the province. The outcome was a successful entry into the new millennium with no disruption of service. Although minor glitches did occur, staff responded in a timely manner and adequate contingency plans were in place to ensure the affected services continued without consequence.

The Year 2000 Challenge Project Management Team



Human Resources Plan for Information Technology Workers

The Technology Support Division, in partnership with the PEI Public Service Commission, is developing a human resource plan for IT employees of Provincial Government. The plan includes a profile of the current IT workforce, identifies future human resource requirements in information technology, and outlines strategies to meet such requirements. In Phase One, short-term training needs were identified. As well, a corporate IT human resource development fund was established to provide IT training opportunities to IT employees throughout Government. This work will be ongoing to ensure Provincial Government is able to meet its future human resource needs in information technology.

PeopleSoft Project

The Technology Support Division, in conjunction with the PEI Public Service Commission, played a major role in the acquisition and implementation of the PeopleSoft Human Resource Management System (HRMS). PeopleSoft HRMS is a world-class software application for human resource management that was implemented to the civil service sector in November 1999 and all five health regions in April 2000. The implementation of PeopleSoft HRMS has enhanced existing processes and improved access to information. The Technology Support Division was responsible for providing the leadership for the technical team. The project implementation partners were Deloitte & Touche Management Solutions and Business Technology Consulting.

The Technology Support Division will provide ongoing technical support, new report development, and service delivery enhancements to PeopleSoft HRMS which is now in full production.

Network Management Implementation

The Technology Support Division participated with Cymbiant Technology and Technology PEI to create a network management implementation plan for the Provincial Government data network. As a result, active network performance monitoring will begin in the 2000/2001 fiscal year.

Expanded IT Support Services

In the past year, there has been an increase in the services provided by the division as well as the number of clients served. The Help Desk processed 20,350 requests for service, representing a 42 per cent increase from 1998/1999. Seventy-five percent of these calls were handled by Help Desk staff while the remaining 25 per cent of calls were referred to other divisional staff. Forty-six percent of the Help Desk calls were handled by the first level of support. The division's experienced, highly skilled staff have contributed to the organization's ability to respond to this increased demand in an efficient and effective manner.

The Technology Support Division will continue to work to expand its client base and range of services to become the central point of contact for support services within the Provincial Government public sector. In addition, the division will work with clients to define and deliver high quality, cost-effective services. Emphasis will be placed on partnerships to leverage efforts and resources.

Information technology will continue to play a major role in the future delivery of Government services. The next few years will be an exciting period of growth as the division investigates and supports new technologies, such as electronic service delivery, in an effort to provide the public with improved access to a broad range of Government services and information.